

Summary of Environmental Justice-centered outreach on Portland Harbor

Several state agencies and the Environmental Protection Agency have been engaged with communities with EJ concerns to inform and educate them on local, state and federal activities in Portland Harbor. What follows below is a high level summary of each agency's work.

Environmental Protection Agency

Since 2002, EPA has shared information and reached out to the public about Portland Harbor cleanup activities. A grant was awarded to the Willamette RiverKeeper to retain a technical advisor. The advisor is available to help community members understand technical information and help the community prepare comments related to the investigation and cleanup of Portland Harbor.

EPA understands the most successful cleanups are those that involve a diverse cross-section of the community. Based on community feedback, EPA is expanding engagement to a broader community and offering a range of engagement activities such as public information sessions, workshops and community café networking sessions. Youth from communities with environmental justice concerns, and who may be vulnerable to health risks from the site, are being engaged through classroom and afterschool lessons about Portland Harbor. Information sessions have been provided to urban tribal community members and youth. Basic information about the site has been translated into four languages and distributed to respective communities. Information and dialogue sessions have been and continue to be offered in Spanish. Additionally, the voices of members from the houseless community are being considered as EPA makes decisions. Recognizing there are needs beyond the scope of the Superfund Program for houseless communities, EPA is coordinating outreach with OHA, DEQ and Metro to keep this particularly vulnerable community aware of progress at the site and discuss city and state services that may be available to provide assistance.

Looking forward to the release of the proposed plan for public review and comment in the spring of 2016, EPA plans to continue an aggressive outreach schedule. The primary focus over the next four months is to plan events, in partnership with the community, to help prepare the public for the comment period. EPA's goal during this time is to reengage and connect with previously involved organizations representing historically underrepresented communities and vulnerable populations. From recent contact, EPA understands that some had to step back and focus on priority issues during the investigation, study and sampling period. With the anticipated release of the proposed plan, EPA looks to hear new voices.

EPA is also nearing release of the revised Community Involvement Plan. The CIP is a strategy to help promote meaningful community involvement throughout the cleanup of the Portland Harbor Superfund site. It specifies planned activities pre and post the Proposed Plan release.

Oregon Health Authority Environmental Health Assessment Program

In 2003, this program initiated formal engagement with community leaders and members to prioritize public health actions. This was part of a Portland Harbor decision that concluded that fish consumption was the pathway of public health concern.

From 2003 to 2009, OHA implemented a mini-grant application program which provided funding to community organizations to enhance outreach efforts to different ethnic groups and specific populations that catch and consume fish from the Portland Harbor Superfund site. With this funding they developed health education materials in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Laotian. There is a brochure and coloring book targeting tribal communities as well.

In 2013, OHA developed new signs developed in collaboration with EPA. Development included focus groups with five community groups.

In 2015, the Portland Harbor Community Coalition was formed. PHCC's mission is to represent communities of color and those disproportionately affected by environmental pollution. OHA has been working with PHCC to provide community leaders and members health education information and has been responsive to their requests.

Department of State Lands

The Department of State Lands does not currently have any regulatory or proprietary applications to evaluate related to the Portland Harbor Superfund clean-up. DSL has been attending meetings of the Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group. Meeting attendance has been split between the agency's Citizen Advocate, and the Proprietary Coordinator for the Lower Willamette River. DSL's General Counsel also attends CAG meetings on occasion.

DSL developed a new rule division in 2012 and 2013 that addresses remediation and restoration projects on state-owned lands, such as the Portland Harbor Superfund site. DSL convened the remediation rules advisory committee, or RRAC, to assist in the drafting of these rules. The RRAC had seven all-day meetings spanning from December 2011 to September 2012. DSL hired a facilitator to facilitate these meetings and keep meeting minutes. The RRAC discussed remediation and restoration issues; and provided comment, edits and proposed language for this rulemaking effort. The RRAC recommended some progressive provisions, such as a pre-application requirement for major remedial actions, such as the installation of a sediment cap, and proof of financial assurance for the installation of sediment caps.

DSL gave the RRAC the opportunity to comment on confined disposal facilities. Their comment was submitted to the State Land Board for consideration. The work and testimony of the RRAC was subsequently reviewed and discussed when the State was drafting their comments on the FS.

Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ has interacted with six tribes that actively participate in Portland Harbor, specifically as it relates to upland source control:

- Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
- Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
- Nez Perce Tribe

Tribal members and their representatives participate in monthly technical coordination team meetings. DEQ affords the tribes the same opportunity as EPA to review and comment on our source control decisions. Specifically, when DEQ is determining that an upland site is not a source requiring source control measures, selection of a source control measure, and when DEQ has determined that a source control measure is final or effective. Five of the six tribes have been using a shared consultant, and DEQ commonly receives review comments from the consultant on proposed decisions. The Yakama Nation has been operating independently of the other tribes. DEQ occasionally receives comments from them.

In 2015, in planning for an upland hot spot removal in Willamette Cove, DEQ, the Port of Portland and Metro met with representatives of EJ groups. DEQ sought their input of how removal could be completed with minimal impacts to houseless community. Prior and after the meeting, DEQ had a number of conversations with EJ groups related to the removal. DEQ participated, along with EPA and the Port of Portland, in a Portland Harbor boat tour that highlight EJ “sites of concern” including Willamette Cove. DEQ staff spoke on the tour, and actively engaged residents and others participating on the tour regarding their concerns.

Throughout 2015, DEQ, Metro, and the Port of Portland have reached out to local citizens through the following:

- Attendance and information distribution at multiple neighborhood meetings for the St. Johns and Cathedral Park neighborhood associations. Similarly, DEQ attending and participated in a number of Portland Harbor CAG meetings. Our actions at the meetings included initial discussion of proposed removal activities and site status, feedback on neighborhood concerns such as truck routing and contaminated media management, and updates on removal activities as they progressed. In additional, DEQ staff fielded calls from a number of community members related to ongoing site activities and removal work.
- Development and issuance of public notices and press releases outlining upland removal efforts.
- Assisting Port of Portland in development of a “tri-fold” flyer that was sent to citizenry on the removal truck route, and fielding calls from concerned citizens about information presented in the flyer.
- While site-owner Metro has led the effort, DEQ and the Port of Portland have been actively involved in planning of outreach efforts before and during removal activities, and providing information to site users regarding contamination issues. DEQ efforts have included requiring additional warning signage and fencing for hot spot areas, providing feedback to Metro on outreach efforts to site users before and during removal work and

site visits to observe houseless site use, and Metro outreach efforts to persons using the site.

Attached is a list of entities, including communities, neighborhoods and organizations with specific environmental justice concerns, DEQ or EPA have presented to or held discussions with about Portland Harbor. There are additional tentative presentations or discussions noted toward the end of the document.

Date	Group	Activity or topics	By whom
11/24/2015	Federal legislators, Governor Brown	General update	DEQ
11/12/2015	Pearl District Neighborhood Association	General PH information/neighborhood discussion	DEQ
11/21/2015	LWV Portland	General PH info as part of EPA's Superfund 101 series	DEQ
10/20/2015	Overlook Neighborhood Association	General PH information/neighborhood discussion	DEQ
10/12/2015	St. John's Neighborhood Association	General PH information/neighborhood discussion	DEQ
10/5/2015	Latino Network	Information packets with childrens' environmental health growth charts, Portland Harbor info card in Spanish provided to Latino Network's health care workers. All materials are in Spanish and health care workers are able to share with the families Spanish speaking families they work with.	EPA
10/19-20/15	St. Andrews Nativity School	Title 1 School with 99% minority population to provide several 45 minute hands on environmental science based lesson and activity for the students. The activities will be based on Portland Harbor Brian Bender activity book and C-FERST demonstration.	EPA
11/30/2015	Native American Youth Association	Afterschool program with Portland Harbor brain bender activity book - activities and overview of Portland Harbor to discuss risks	EPA
10/20/2015	Native American Youth Association	Afterschool program with Portland Harbor brain bender activity book - activities and overview of Portland Harbor to discuss risks	EPA
9/29/2015	Warner Pacific College	General PH information	DEQ
September and October 2015	NRRB/CSTAG review	Series of information sessions to Review of cleanup options in FS with CAG and community groups in preparation of NRRB recommendations.	EPA
9/18/2015	Cathedral Park information session	Mini-Superfund 101	EPA
9/16/2015	Rachel Carson Middle School	Portland Harbor childrens activity books	EPA
9/2/2015	Linnton Neighborhood Association	General PH information/neighborhood meeting	DEQ
9/1/2015	Houseless/Homeless community group presentation	Provided Q&A and discussion with Right to Dream Right to Survive during Port of Portland boat tour	EPA
8/15/2015	Seaport Celebration	PH community event on river sponsored by the Port of Portland, EPA to provide multilingual materials and brain bender book for children.	EPA and DEQ
8/12/2015	CAG meeting	2nd Wed of month, CAG meets	EPA
8/7/2015	Release of FS Section 4 to community	Notification and provide Chapter 4 to CAG	EPA
8/2/2015	Cathedral Park environmental fair	General PH information/neighborhood concerns	DEQ
8/2/2015	Willamette River Revival	Community and Tribal celebration of River. EPA provides outreach material to community and Tribes for event.	EPA
7/25/2015	Slavic Festival	EPA to provide Russian (translated) outreach material and childrens activity books	EPA and DEQ
7/16/2015	PH Community Café	Community networking around shared values /concerns related to the river cleanup. Prepping community for commenting on proposed plan.	EPA and DEQ

6/18/2015	Oregon Trades Women	Presentation of PH/SF 101 training	EPA and DEQ
6/10/2015	PH Community Advisory Group and Technical Coordination Team	General PH information and discussion	EPA and DEQ
6/2/2015	Science on Tap (community event)	Source control	DEQ
5/21/2015	Sierra Club	Presentation of PH/SF 101 training	EPA and DEQ
4/16/2015	Oregon Environmental Quality Commission	Cleanup overview, source control focus (premiere of the kiosk video)	DEQ
4/9/2015	Northwest Environmental Business Council	General PH information	DEQ
4/7/2015	Portland State University	General PH information	DEQ
3/28/2015	Multicultural/New Columbia community	Presentation of PH/SF 101 training	EPA and DEQ
3/12/2015	Verde/Portland Harbor Community Coalition	Mini PH/SF 101 training (Spanish)	EPA
3/11/2015	PH CAG Meeting	Capping	EPA
2/28/2015	In it together Summit	City wide meeting about city community concerns. PH booth with multi-lingual information.	EPA
3/1/2015	League of Women Conservation Voters	General PH information and discussion	DEQ
3/10/2015	University of Portland H2O festival	Classroom education - taught approx. 150 students about Portland Harbor (6,7-8th grade	EPA
2/17/2015	DEQ internal staff meeting: Headquarters and Eastern Region Cleanup Program staff	General PH information, program specific detail	DEQ
2/10/2015	CAG working meeting	FS Section 1	EPA
2/11/2015	CAG meeting	Montitored Natural Recovery Discussion	EPA
8/23/2014	Willamette Speaks Storytelling	Printing resource support to community	EPA
8/2-3/2015	Dirty Side of PDX- Portland Community Coalition	Presentation on PH by EPA	EPA
3/9/2014	Slavic Society PDX	Presentation of Information cards (translated in Russian)	EPA
12/7/2013	Czech Society of PDX	Presentation on Portland Harbor	EPA
10/27/2013	Iraqi Society of PDX	Presentation on Portland Harbor	EPA
1/25/2015	Earth Care Summit	Mini PH/SF 101 training (Spanish)	EPA
<i>Planned/future</i>			
1/1/2016	Audubon Society / Willamette Riverkeeper	Presentation of PH/SF 101 training	EPA (DEQ also to schedule)
1/1/2016	Linton Neighborhood Association	Prep for Proposed Plan	EPA
Jan-Feb	SE/SW Neighborhood Assoications	Community Café and Information meeting	EPA
Jan-Feb	Spanish speaking communities	Information session in Spanish	EPA
2/9/2016	League of Women Voters	Proposed Plan/Portland Harbor Roundtable	EPA
3/1/2016	Earth Care Summit	Prep for Proposed Plan	EPA
Winter 2016	Willamette RiverKepper		DEQ
TBD	Northwest Environmental Defense Center		DEQ
TBD	Northwest Environmental Advocates		DEQ
TBD	Portland Community College		DEQ
TBD	University of Portland		DEQ
TBD	Marylhurt University		DEQ
TBD	Environmental Law Education Center		DEQ
TBD	Friends of Forest Park		DEQ
TBD	Association of Oregon Inductraies		DEQ

TBD	Oregon Health Authority		DEQ
TBD	Groundwork/PH Community Coalition	To replace cancelled 6/23/2015 meeting	EPA and DEQ
Winter 2016	Multiple locations	Information sessions: Site status and Public comment process	EPA
Spring 2016	Multiple locations	Infomational community meetings on Proposed Plan	EPA
Spring 2016	Multiple locations	Public meetings for Proposed Plan public comment	EPA
<i>Ongoing</i>	Community Support in Printing newsletters and announcing events such as Willamette River Revival and CAG Newsletter.		EPA
	Presentations to the Portland Harbor Community Coalition		EPA

<i>Kiosk installations</i>	Planned or tentative locations	<i>All DEQ</i>
Downtown waterfront: Salmon Springs fountain, Saturday Market pavillion, Eastside Esplanade		
North/Northwest Portland: Cathedral Park boat launch, Overlook Park, Fields Neighborhood Park, Mock’s Crest Park, Madrona City Pak, Salzman trailhead, Pier Park, St John’s City Park/Community Center, Linnton Community Center, Kelly Point I		
Swan Island Boat Ramp		
Swan Island shipyard (for art fest)		
PSU Urban Center		
University of Portland River Campus/bluff		
Moda Center courtyard/fountain		
<i>Offers declined</i>		
Tribal governments: Yakama Nation, Grande Ronde, Siletz, Umatilla, Warm Springs and Nez Perce		DEQ